

REMARKS

Claims 19, 24-29, 32-39 are pending in the present application.

Reexamination of the application and reconsideration of the rejections and objections are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

I. Nonstatutory Obviousness-type Double Patenting Rejections

The Examiner provisionally rejected claims 19, 24-29, and 32-39 on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over co-pending application No. 11/909,447. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn in this application, which is the first-filed application. When the present claims are found allowable, the Examiner should assess whether the rejection could then be applied to the later-filed applications.

The Examiner rejected claims 19, 24-29, 32, 38, and 39 on the grounds of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over U.S. Patent No. 7,544,637. A terminal disclaimer under 37 CFR 1.321(c) with respect to U.S. Pat. No. 7,544,637 is filed herewith. Thus, Applicants obviate this rejection by the filing of an appropriate terminal disclaimer.

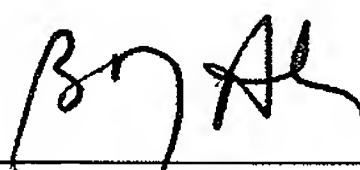
For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. A Notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If any questions remain, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number given below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Respectfully submitted,

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE

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